

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 13, 2005. Claims 1 to 17 and 37 to 40 are in the application. Claims 18 to 36 have been canceled and new Claims 38 to 40 have been added. Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 7, 9 to 13, 15 to 17 and 37 have been amended. Claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 13, 17, 37, 38 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 5, 6, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 because some of the terms therein lacked antecedent basis. The claims have been amended to correct antecedent basis.

Claims 1 to 11, 13 to 15 and 37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,728,267 (Giese), and Claims 12 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Giese in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,779,004 (Zintel). Applicants have considered the Office Action's comments together with the applied references and respectfully submit that the claims herein are patentably distinguishable over the applied references for at least the following reasons.

The invention concerns a telecommunications network in which a desired communication between devices connected to the network is automatically established through steps performed by the communicating devices. Specifically, Claim 1 recites the steps are performed by at least one of an originating device, a target device, and at least one additional device. The steps include determining a profile compatibility between the originating device and the target device. If a direct profile compatibility is found, the desired communication is established directly between the originating device and the target device. If a direct profile compatibility is not found, at least one additional device is incorporated, forming linked device pairs, to establish a direct profile compatibility between each linked device pair.

By contrast, Giese is seen to disclose network communication that is established and maintained by one or more centralized entities. Specifically, Giese discloses a connectivity server 99a (FIG. 18) that controls most of the communication sessions in conformance with a centralized session control model. (column 17, lines 38 to 40 of Giese). Therefore, communication between communicating devices in Giese is established and maintained largely by a single, centralized entity. Even Giese's mention of a "highly distributed version" of the session control remains centralized in connectivity servers 99a, b, and c. (column 17, lines 41 to 44 of Giese). Thus, the centralized session control of Giese cannot disclose or suggest establishing network communication through steps performed by the communicating devices, such as the claimed originating device, target device, and at least one additional device.

Furthermore, Zintel discloses an adapter which operates as a peer-networking addressable controlled device module converting protocols between other devices. Specifically, the adapter does not include at least the feature of establishing, if a direct profile compatibility is not found, desired communication indirectly between devices by incorporating at least one additional device. Therefore, Zintel is not seen to cure the deficiency of Giese. Accordingly, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable over the cited references.

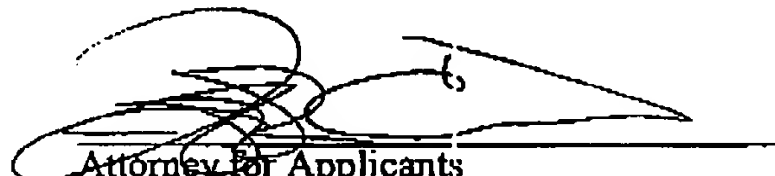
Claims 5, 7, 9, 13, 17, 37, and 38 are directed to methods, a telecommunication system, a computer readable medium, and an apparatus in accordance with the features of Claim 1. Applicants submit that the discussion from above in regard to Claim 1 applies equally to Claims 5, 7, 9, 13, 17, 37, and 38. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 5, 7, 9, 13, 17, 37, and 38 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are, therefore, believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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